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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT

Applicant:	Walter Winkler
Application No.	09/810,374
Filed:	March 15, 2001
For:	Picking Apparatus
Group Art Unit:	3652
Examiner:	Charles A. Fox
Attorney Docket No.:	1020843-991180

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313

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Dear Sir:

GROUP 3600

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) and 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, Applicant(s) hereby make of record the references listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 for consideration by the Examiner in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application.

This Information Disclosure Statement:

- (a) ☐ accompanies a new patent application submitted herewith.
- (b) ☐ is filed within three (3) months of the Filing Date or before the mailing date of a First Office Action on the merits; **OR**
- (c) ☐ after the period defined in (b) but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, **OR**
- (d) ☒ is filed after the first Office Action and more than three months after the application's filing date or PCT national stage date of entry filing but, as far as is known to the undersigned prior to the mailing date of either a final rejection or a notice of allowance, and is accompanied by either the fee (\$180) set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p) or a certification as specified in 37 CFR § 1.97(e), as checked below **OR**
- (d) ☐ is filed after the mailing date of either a final rejection or a notice of allowance, and the issue fee has not been paid, and is accompanied by the requisite petition fee (\$130) set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(l)(1) and a certification as specified in 37 CFR § 1.97(e), as checked below. This document is to be considered as a petition requesting consideration of the information disclosure statement.

As required under § 1.97(e), Applicants, through the undersigned, hereby state either that [check the appropriate space]:

- (f) ☒ Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of the Information Disclosure Statement; or
- (g) ☐ No item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this Statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

It is respectfully requested that each of the references shown on the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application. The cited reference was filed with the IDS filed April 17, 2002, and no copy is enclosed herewith, as it is already in the prosecution file.



Enclosed is an English translation of the Office Action as received from the German Patent Office corresponding to the related German application no. DE 100 13 214.6-22. Please be advised that the German Examiner did not give a detailed argument with respect to the relevance of each cited document. In most of the cases, the German Examiner refers to the drawings of the references.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies and credit any overpayment of fees to our Deposit Account No. 07-1896

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 21, 2003

GRAY CARY WARE & FREIDENRICH LLP

By: 

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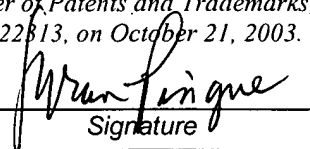
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October 21, 2003

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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	09/810,374
	Filing Date	March 15, 2001
	First Named Inventor	Walter Winkler
	Art Unit	3652
	Examiner Name	Charles A. Fox
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	1020843-991180

**ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)**

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Postcard; Office Action from German Patent Office and cited references.
Remarks		

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**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

Firm or Individual	Timothy W. Lohse Gray Cary Ware & Freidenrich LLP
Signature	
Date	October 21, 2003

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.			
Typed or printed	Susan C. Pingue		
Signature		Date	October 21, 2003

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2

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